NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES DRAFT DETERMINATION ON LAKE DAVIS

The State Department of Health Services (DHS) is required by law to evaluate any proposal by the State Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to introduce a poison into a drinking water supply to determine if the activity will have a permanent adverse impact on the quality of the drinking water supply or wells connected to the drinking water supply. In making this determination, DHS shall evaluate the short- and long-term health effects of the poison in drinking water, ensure that an alternative supply of drinking water is provided to the users of the drinking water supply while the activity takes place, and, in cooperation with the DFG, develop and implement a monitoring program to ensure that no detectable residuals of the poison, breakdown products, and other components of the poison formulation remain in the drinking water supply or adjoining wells after the activity is completed.

DFG has proposed to treat Lake Davis, the drinking water supply for the City of Portola (City) and the Grizzly Lake Resort Improvement District (GLRID), with a fish poison, rotenone, to eradicate Northern Pike, a non-native invasive specie. DHS has reviewed the proposal and has completed a draft determination. The determination evaluates the short- and long-term health effects of the poison in Lake Davis water and surrounding groundwater, evaluates the need for alternative water supplies for the City and GLRID until Lake Davis is acceptable for use as a drinking water supply, and includes a draft monitoring plan to ensure that no detectable residuals of the poison, breakdown products, and other components of the poison formulation remain in the drinking water supply or adjoining wells after the treatment is completed.

DHS is seeking public input on the draft determination. In addition copies of the document are available for review at the Portola City Hall (35 Third Avenue), Plumas County Library in Portola (34 Third Avenue) and Quincy (445 Jackson) and the DHS Division of Drinking & Environmental Management Office (1616 Capitol Avenue, Sacramento). Comments are requested to be submitted by March 10, 2007. Please send your comments to Dr. David P. Spath, California Department of Health Services Division of Drinking Water & Environmental Management 850 Marina Bay Parkway Bldg. P, 2nd Floor Richmond, CA 94804; or e-mail your comments to: dspath@dhs.ca.gov.

DHS also plans to hold a public workshop to discuss the draft determination on the evening of February 21st in Portola. Information on the exact time and location of the workshop will be forthcoming.